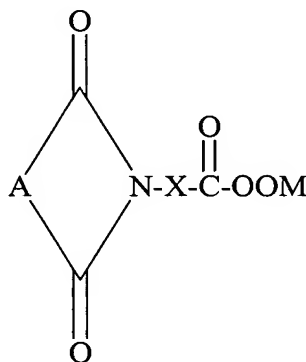


IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

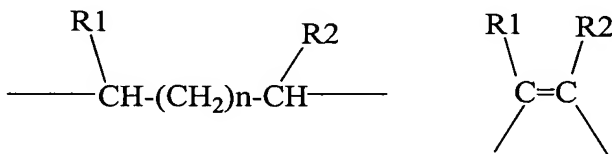
Claim 1 (Currently Amended): Liquid formulations of imidoalkanepercarboxylic acids in the form of aqueous dispersions comprising, in percentages by weight relative to the total weight of the composition:

- A) from  $[\geq]$  7% to 40% ~~and preferably from 10% to 20%~~ of imidoalkanepercarboxylic acids having the general formula (I)

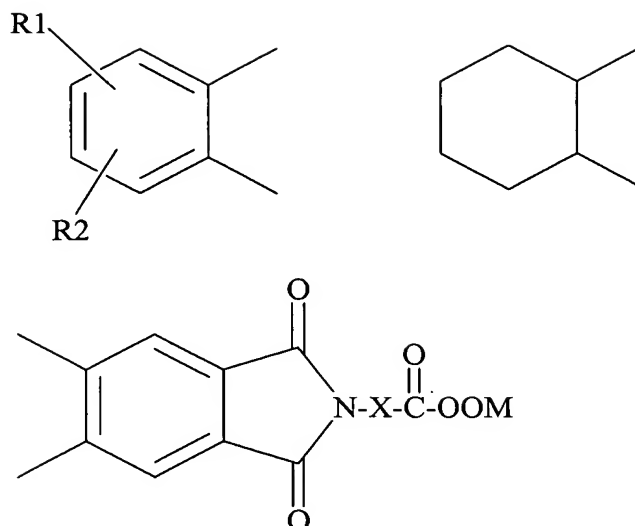


(I)

in which A ~~indicates a~~ is selected from the group consisting essentially of chosen  
~~from the following~~



((or))



in which:

n is an integer 0, 1 or 2,

R1 ~~has one of the following meanings:~~ is hydrogen, chlorine, bromine, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>20</sub> alkyl, C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>20</sub> alkenyl, aryl or alkylaryl,

R2 is hydrogen, chlorine, bromine or ~~[[a]]~~ selected from the group chosen from the following: consisting essentially of -SO<sub>3</sub>M, -CO<sub>2</sub>M, -CO<sub>3</sub>M ~~or~~ and -OSO<sub>3</sub>M,

M ~~means~~ is hydrogen, an alkali metal, ammonium or an equivalent of an alkaline-earth metal,

X ~~indicates~~ is a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>19</sub> alkylene or an arylene;

the said acids being in the  $\beta$ -crystal form;

B) ~~from 0.001% to 0.9%, preferably from 0.005% to 0.3% and even more preferably from 0.01% to 0.1% of a surfactant chosen from nonionic surfactants~~ surfactant;

the difference to 100% ~~consisting of~~ comprising water and of other optional additives for detergent formulations;

the said dispersions having a viscosity of not more than 2000 mPa.sec at 25°C by applying a shear rate of 20 s<sup>-1</sup>;

in which the dissolution time of the component A), determined ~~via the test of~~  
by testing the rate of dissolution at a temperature of 40°C or 18°C, is not more  
than 5 minutes when determined at 40°C or 15 minutes when determined at  
18°C, for an amount of dissolved acid equal to 99% of the theoretical amount;  
~~as defined in the rate of dissolution test;~~  
the said dispersions in the test of stability at 40°C for seven days ~~show~~ having  
variations in viscosity of not more than 300 mPa.sec, ~~preferably less than 150~~  
~~mPa.sec and even more preferably less than 100 mPa.sec, the viscosity being~~  
~~determined under the conditions indicated above.~~

Claim 2 (Currently Amended): The formulation according to Claim 1 ~~being~~  
~~obtainable~~ prepared by grinding the crystals of imidoalkanepercarboxylic acids in  $\alpha$  form  
dispersed in an excess of water, in the presence of a ~~surfactant chosen from nonionic~~  
~~surfactants~~ surfactant; and cooling the liquid dispersion to a temperature below 30°C.

Claim 3 (Currently Amended): The formulation according to Claim 1, ~~in which,~~  
wherein in the test of stability at 40°C for seven days, the imidoalkanepercarboxylic acids,  
component A), show a loss of peroxide oxygen content of not more than 2% ~~and preferably~~  
~~not more than 1 %~~ relative to the initial titre.

Claim 4 (Currently Amended): The formulation according to Claim 1, ~~in which~~  
wherein the imidoalkanepercarboxylic acids, component A), ~~are in the  $\alpha$ -crystal form, which~~  
~~is~~ form stable ~~on storage in solid  $\alpha$ -crystals form, and in that, when dispersed in water, it~~  
~~converts~~ are converted into stable crystals of the  $\beta$ -crystal form, ~~which is stable~~ in aqueous  
medium, the ~~said~~ crystals of  $\beta$ -crystal form having average dimensions of less than 30

microns, ~~preferably less than 10 microns, more preferably less than 8 microns and particularly less than or equal to 2 microns;~~ wherein the  $\alpha$ -crystal form being characterized, relative to the  $\beta$ -crystal form, ~~in that the related spectra obtained via the techniques of x-ray diffraction and surface infrared spectroscopy (IR/S) show, relative to those of the  $\beta$  form of the same peracid;~~ has a different x-ray spectral image and a shift of the typical absorption in the region  $1697\text{-}1707\text{ cm}^{-1}$  in IR/S surface infrared spectroscopy towards higher frequencies, of the order of ~~about~~  $8\text{-}10\text{ cm}^{-1}$ .

Claim 5 (Currently Amended): The formulation according to Claim 1, ~~in which~~ wherein the nonionic surfactant is selected from the group consisting essentially of ~~chosen from~~ ethoxylated, polyethoxylated, propoxylated or polypropoxylated nonionic surfactants or surfactants containing one or more propoxy repeating units and one or more ethoxy units.

Claim 6 (Currently Amended): The formulation according to Claim 5, ~~in which~~ wherein the polyethoxylated or polypropoxylated nonionic surfactants have a number of ethoxy or propoxy repeating groups of less than or equal to 15 ~~and preferably less than or equal to 5~~; the nonionic surfactants containing propoxy and ethoxy units have a number of ethoxy groups of not more than 10 and a number of propoxy units of not more than 2.

Claim 7 (Currently Amended): The formulation according to Claim 6, ~~in which~~ wherein the surfactants are ethoxylated surfactants.

Claim 8 (Currently Amended): The formulation according to Claim 1, comprising additives ~~or ingredients that are conventional~~ for detergent and disinfecting formulations,

dissolved in aqueous solution and/or dispersed in the suspension together with the imidoalkanepercarboxylic acids, component A).

Claim 9 (Currently Amended): The formulation according to Claim 8, ~~in which~~ wherein the said additives are ~~chosen from~~ selected from the group consisting of those that ~~contribute towards further increasing the chemical and physical stability of the formulation,~~ preferably paraffins, phosphonic acids, ~~optionally~~ hydroxylated carboxylic acids, and dicarboxylic acids, ~~etc., or are co-adjuvants, and/or agents for optimizing the pH of the washing bath,~~ preferably phthalic acids, and adipic acid, and mixtures thereof.

Claim 10 (Currently Amended): A process for obtaining the formulation of Claim 1, comprising:

- grinding at a temperature of from 40°C to 65°C crystals of imidoalkanepercarboxylic acids ~~PAP~~ in  $\alpha$  form dispersed in an excess of water, the said excess ~~preferably~~ being at least 2 parts by weight of water/1 part by weight of percarboxylic acid, in the presence of a ~~surfactant chosen from nonionic surfactants~~ surfactant;
- cooling the liquid dispersion to a temperature below 30°C, ~~preferably below 25°C,~~ and optionally with the addition of adding viscosifying additives.

Claim 11 (Currently Amended): The process according to Claim 10, ~~in which~~ wherein the cooling occurs at a temperature to which the liquid dispersion is cooled is not less than 4°C.

Claim 12 (Currently Amended): A method of ~~use of~~ using the formulation of Claim 1 in bleaching and disinfecting applications.

Claim 13 (Currently Amended): The formulation according to Claim 1, ~~in which~~ wherein the imidoalkaneperoxy-carboxylic acid is  $\epsilon$ -phthalimidoperoxyhexanoic acid.

Claim 14 (Currently Amended): The method of ~~use according to~~ Claim 12, ~~in which~~ wherein the component A) of the formulation is  $\epsilon$ -phthalimidoperoxyhexanoic acid.